the competitiveness of the Indian industry by integrating India into the world economy.

It is, therefore, believed that the Indian economy will, by and large, benefit from the dismantling of quantitative import restrictions. However, protection, to Indian Industry wherever deemed necessary, will still be possible through calibrated tariff structure and also through various other mechanisms within the framework of WTO Agreements.

Steps to Alleviate Poverty in Assam

*15. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government to alleviate poverty in Assam, during the last three years i.e. 1997-98, 1998-99 and so far in 1999-2000;

(b) be the number of people provided employment opportunities during the above period in the urban areas of Assam, particularly in the Barak Valley; and

(c) the other schemes Government are likely to introduce to remove poverty by providing employment opportunities, alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA):(a) In December, 1997, a unified Urban Poverty Alleviation programme called Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) was launched. The SJSRY seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor living below the poverty line through encouraging the setting up of the self employment ventures and provision of wage employment and training. During 1997-98 and 1998-99, a sum of Rs. 540.38 lakhs and Rs. 823.08 lakhs respectively have been released to Assam as Central Share. For the year 1999-2000, a sum of Rs. 789.18 lakhs has been allocated to this State.

(b) The achievement of the programme has not been reported so far by the State Government. The programme is monitored State-wise as a whole and the progress of individual towns/cities/area is not monitored by Government of India.

(c) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana is itself a new scheme. The implementation of the programme is being pursued vigorously.

Allotment of land for relocating the Industries out of Delhi

*16. SHRI O.P. KOLHI: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Delhi has acquired agricultural land for allotment to industries to be relocated out of Delhi, but neither the industries in non-conforming areas have been shifted nor the land allotted to them; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not relocating the industrial units out of Delhi and for not allotting the land to them?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Delhi Government has reported that 1300 acres of land has been notified for acquisition for development of new industrial areas for relocation of industries operating in residential/non-conforming areas of Delhi. A part of this land is in rural areas and rest in urban extension area. Out of this, possession of 1065 acres of land has been taken by the Delhi Government. The possession of the remaining land could not be taken as it is heavily built up. Development of the acquired land is being done by the Delhi Government through the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation. The industrial units which have applied and were found eligible for allotment of alternate industrial land as reported by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi are to be relocated after the acquired land is fully developed and factory buildings are constructed by the allottees. The layout plans for these lands have been prepared.

Government of Delhi has not acquired any agricultural land for allotment to industries to be relocated out of Delhi as such acquisition/allotment of land outside Delhi comes within the purview of the concerned State Governments.

Border Trade Between North Eastern Areas and Adjoining Countries

*17. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to encourage Border Trade between North Eastern areas and the adjoining countries;